MARVEL COMICS

THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS!

NOV
#10

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

DEAD POOL

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME!

BECAUSE YOU ACTUALLY DEMANDED IT--

THE GREAT LAKES AVENGERS

KELLY
DENTON
MASSENGILL

DIRECT EDITION

$1.99 US $2.80 CAN

SAN FRANCISCO.

11:59PM

INSOMNIA.

THIS IS RIDICULOUS.

AIN'T BEEN AFRAID OF GHOULIES BUMPIN' IN THE NIGHT SINCE **FLAPPER DRESSES** WERE IN STYLE...

...WHICH, INCIDENTALLY, I NEVER TOOK TO 'CAUSE THEY MADE MY BUTT LOOK BIG.

BUT TONIGHT... TONIGHT'S **BAD.**

WHENEVER I DID GET THE SPOOKS, JUST ONE THING COULD UNCLENCH MY GUT AN' RELAX THE STEEL CORDS IN MY BACK... **NICOTINE.**

WARM MILK IS FOR **BABIES.**

'COURSE TODAY, LIGHTIN' UP IN BED IS CONSIDERED A **HEALTH RISK** IN MORE WAYS THAN I CARE TO RECALL...

...BUT SCREW 'EM. I'M OLD. I'VE **EARNED** A NIGHT OF LIVING **DANGEROUSLY.**

'SIDES... IN THE GRAND SCHEME OF THINGS, WHAT ARE A HOUSE FIRE AN' LUNG CANCER COMPARED T'MY PROBLEMS?

THIS JUST ISN'T **AS RELAXING** WHEN YOU CAN'T WATCH THE **SMOKE** SWIRL AROUND...

I DON'T KNOW WHERE DEADPOOL IS.

NORMALLY, I COULD GIVE A SHAKE. MORE HE'S AWAY, THE MORE I GET TO CATCH UP ON MY HOBBIES...

...NEEDLEPOINT. THIMBLE COLLECTING... PLANNING ESCAPE ROUTES... TYPICAL OLD LADY TWADDLE...

BUT WADE ARSN'T EXACTLY BEEN HIMSELF LATELY, SO A MIND STARTS TO WORK OVERTIME WHEN HE GOES M.I.A.

FOR A WHILE, IT LOOKED LIKE HE WAS CHANGING FOR THE BETTER... EVOLVING SO TO SPEAK, INTO SOMETHING RESEMBLING A DECENT HUMAN BEING.

NO DOUBT DUE TO THE INFLUENCE OF A CERTAIN BONNIE IRISH LASS WITH AN ANGEL'S FACE AND A VOICE LIKE GIDEON'S TRUMPET.

WITH ANY LUCK, THAT'S WHERE HE IS NOW. RECONNECTING HIS TETHER T' SOMETHING GOOD IN THIS WORLD...

...COURSE... LADY LUCK AN' I DON'T GET ALONG TOO WELL.

CASE IN POINT: WADE GOT HIMSELF INVOLVED WITH SOME DIZZY THRILL-KILL CHICK NAME OF TYPHOID MARY.

I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WENT ON BETWEEN THEM...

...BUT I HAVE A FEELING WADE'S BURGEONING "GOOD SIDE" WOULD'VE STOOD A BETTER CHANCE IN A FIRESTORM WITH A PAPER UMBRELLA.

DAMN... NOW I REALLY CAN'T SLEEP.

TO FIND OUT WHAT'S UP WITH THE X-MANSION, CHECK OUT X-MEN#70. AS FOR DEADPOOL'S PURSUIT OF SYRIN, SEE CURRENT ISSUES OF X-FORCE. -- Matt

SINCE TANGLING WITH MARY, WADE'S BEEN UP TO THINGS HE HASN'T DONE IN MONTHS...

...OLD HABITS CREEPIN' BACK LIKE A DARK TIDE.

STAYING OUT FOR DAYS AT A TIME... SKULKIN' AROUND, NOT SAYING A WORD...

...DEADPOOL... QUIET... WHO'D BELIEVE IT...

...WORST OF ALL THOUGH... HIS LITTLE PILGRIMAGES...

...TO THE BOX.

THE BOX.

JEEZ... ARE MY LEGS SHAKING?

CREEAAK

ALFRED.

AW CRAP. DIDN'T HEAR HIM TELEPORT BACK IN.

I KNOW YOU'RE AWAKE. THE *CIGARILLO'S* STINKING UP THE WHOLE JOINT. TROUBLE SLEEPING?

NO BIGGIE, WADE. BAD DREAMS.

YEAH? ME TOO. SOMETHING ABOUT *KATHY LEE* AND A GLEE CLUB OF DANCING TEETH... I THINK THERE WAS THAT BUNNY WITH THE BATTERY, TOO, BUT I'D RATHER NOT TALK ABOUT IT.

SURE.

Y'KNOW, I NEVER GOT TO COMPLIMENT YOU ON THE LAST *PRANK* YOU PULLED. BEEN CHUCKLING 'BOUT IT FOR *DAYS*...

YEAH...? YOU HAVEN'T SEEMED TOO HAPPY --

LAST ISH -- Matt

I'M LAUGHING ON THE INSIDE. HONEST. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT *PAYBACK*...

KLIK

...GET UP, AL.

W- WHY, WADE?

BECAUSE IT'S' TIME FOR ONE LUCKY *FOSSIL* TO COME ON DOWN AND *CRACK* A HIP AS SHE TAKES A WHIRL AT...

GRACELAND
MIDGET TOSSING
BODY WAXING
ACUPUNCTURE
FREEDOM
COMEDY JAM

ROAD-TRIP ROULETTE!

STAN LEE PRESENTS:
JOE "NO WHAMMIES" KELLY
SCRIPT
SHANNON "PLINKO" DENTON
PENCILS
NATHAN "BACHELOR #2" MASSENGILL
INKS
RICHARD STARKINGS AND COMICRAFT'S ALBERT DESCHESNE
LETTERS
JESSICA "JOKER'S WILD" KINDZIERSKA
COLORS
DIGITAL "PRICE IS RIGHT" CHAMELEON
SEPARATES
MATT "ANSWER IS THE FORM OF A QUESTION" NELSON
EDITS
DAN "LOVE CONNECTION" HARRIS
CHIEF

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CH- CHAAA!

EXCITEMENT, EXCITEMENT!

GET OUT OF MY ROOM, YE *PERVERT*. I'M TRYING TO GET MY *BEAUTY* REST.

AWW, COME ON, *AL!*

WE HAVEN'T HAD A FIELD TRIP IN SO *LONNNG!* I WANNA!

NO.

HOW CAN I PUT THIS *DELICATELY*...

...SPIN THE WHEEL O' FUN AND SPEND SOME *QUALITY* TIME BONDING WITH ME *OUTSIDE* OF THE HOUSE...

...OR TAKE YOUR CHANCES WITH SOME *AT-HOME* ENTERTAINMENT.

I'M THINKING *PEANUT BUTTER* AND *FIRE ANTS* FOR STARTERS. WE'LL RUN WITH IT FROM THERE.

WADE, I... ->SIGH<- WHAT IF I WAS TO TELL YOU THAT I WAS *CONCERNED* WITH HOW YOU'VE BEEN ACTING LATELY?

THAT I THOUGHT THAT MAYBE SOME OF THE *PROGRESS* YOU'VE MADE --

-- ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?

do cl... our 👁's when sleeping

WHAT'S THAT, MR. *HAPPY WHEEL?*

...

...MR. HAPPY WHEEL WANTS TO KNOW IF YOU PREFER *SMOOTH* OR *CHUNKY.*

DENIAL. HOW *PRODUCTIVE* OF YOU.

KLIC

KLAC

YAY. WADE LIKE KLIC-KLAC SOUND. SOUND GOOD. SOUND MEAN FIRE ANTS GO *HUNGRY.*

AL HAS *MIRTHFUL* DAY, NOT *OUCH-FULL* ONE.

KLAKETY KLAKETY KLAK

GRACELAND

BODY-WAXING

AQUARIUM

FREEDOM

ROUND AND ROUND SHE GOES --

-- LIKE *MONONUCLEOSIS* IN A CO-ED *BOARDING SCHOOL* --

-- WHERE SHE *STOPS* --

-- *HEAVENS!* COULD IT BE?!?

AFTER ALL THESE YEARS... AFTER SO MANY *SPINS* OF THE WHEEL... HAS AL DIALED HER WAY TO *FREEDOM?!*

YES... *YES!*

NO.

MISSED IT BY A *SMIDGE.*

WHF

INSTEAD, AL'S WON A DAY OF FROLICKING WITH *SEA CREATURES* AND ALL THE SLIMY FISH *ENTRAILS* HER ARTHRITIC HANDS CAN THROW!

THE *AQUARIUM?!?* THE LAST TIME YOU LET ME OUT OF THE HOUSE WE WENT TO THE AQUARIUM!

I *HATE* THE @#&% AQUARIUM!

We do close our eye's when sleeping

PLEASE, AL, RULES *ARE* RULES. AND WITHOUT RULES, WHAT DO WE HAVE? *ANARCHY!* THAT'S *RIGHT,* MR. HAPPY WHEEL!

I'LL GET THE SUNSCREEN, YOU SLIP INTO SOMETHING *WATER-PROOF.*

Y'KNOW... IN CASE YOU ACCIDENTALLY GET TRIPPED INTO THE *PIRANHA* TANK AGAIN.... =SNICKER SNORT=

ROAD TRIP!

MEANWHILE...

...DEEP WITHIN THE BOWELS OF A MYSTERIOUS, HIGH-TECH COMPLEX...

LOOK AROUND US! *CHAOS* EVER'WHERE! *MADNESS* IS ENGULFIN' THE NATION!

IT'S TIME THE WORLD *ONCE MORE* BECAME AWARE OF OUR *PRESENCE.*

YES! ESPECIALLY WITH THE MAJORITY OF THE SO-CALLED *HEROES* GONE, IT CAN ALL BE *OURS!*

...SIGNIFICANT EVENTS BEGIN TO UNFOLD.

INDEED, THE VERY *EARTH* WILL *TREMBLE* BENEATH OUR FEET!

MAH THOUGHTS, EXACTLY...

...TODAY, THE WORLD WILL BEAR WITNESS TO A *NEW ERA. OUR* ERA! THE ERA OF THE --

Um... *EXCUSE* ME, BOSS?

-- WHAT?

WE'VE WAITED *THIS* LONG, TRAINING AND PLOTTING AND HONING OUR SKILLS IN *SECRET*...

...WOULD THE WORLD STILL BE THERE IF WE USHERED IN A NEW AGE *TOMORROW*, AND WENT TO THE AQUARIUM *TODAY?*

IT'S TWO-FOR-ONE DAY ON *MINNOWS.*

Hrrm. YES...

...I CAN SEE IT SO CLEARLY...

...*TODAY* THE AQUARIUM... TOMORROW THE *WORLD!*

FISH STINK.

SO DO MOST PEOPLE, I THINK. THAT'S WHY AQUARIUMS CAME TO BE... IT'S A NATURAL.

BAY CITY AQUARIU

WALLY SEZ.. WE ONLY EAT FIS PLEASE, DON'T THROW ANYTHI ELSE IN THE POOL!

BUNCH OF HOT, STINKY FOLKS WITH NOTHIN' BETTER T'DO THAN PEN UP A BUNCH OF COLD STINKY SEAFOOD SO THEY CAN OBSERVE IT...

...DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.

THERE'S A GROTESQUELY BEAUTIFUL SYMMETRY IN IT...

...OR MAYBE I'M JUST BITTER 'CAUSE I GET ALL OF THE FISH-STENCH AND NONE OF THE THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS OF WATCHING THE BUGGERS SWIM.

GUN'S NICE THOUGH.

WARM HAND, PLAYFULLY SWATTING ME IN MY MUG... AN OLD FRIEND I DON'T VISIT OFTEN ENOUGH.

I GET LOST IN THE RADIANCE ON MY SKIN, AND FORGET WHY IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE THE LAST TIME...

COOL! THEY HAVE A *BABY SEAL* EXHIBIT!

SEE, I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT MY *CLUB*, BUT *NOOOO*, YOU DIDN'T WANT TO CARRY IT IN YOUR *PURSE!*

I ♥ FISH!

MAP

...IT DON'T LAST LONG.

AT LEAST YOU BROUGHT THE ALKA-SELTZER TO FEED THE SEAGULLS...

AL, CAN I ASK YA SOME-THING?

IF IT INVOLVES MY *INTERACTING* WITH SEA-LIFE IN ANY FASHION, THE ANSWER'S *NO.*

FISH

CRUMPET CRUMPET

ARE YOU HAPPY?

I MEAN, SURE, YOUR LIFE PROBABLY DIDN'T TURN OUT EXACTLY AS *EXPECTED*...

BUT EXCEPT FOR THE LACK OF ALL PERSONAL *FREEDOMS* AND *"THE HAVING TO FIGHT DAILY FOR YOUR DIGNITY"* PART...

...WOULD YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF *CONTENT?*

WELL... MY PANTYHOSE STILL FIT NICE, I GET THREE SQUARES A DAY AND A LEAKY ROOF OVER MY HEAD, AND I CAN WATCH MATLOCK ALMOST 24-7 ON CABLE..

BUT THAT PRISONER PART SORT OF BLOWS IT ALL TO HELL. THANKS FOR ASKING... YOU?

BZZT

FISH!

THAT'S THE TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR QUESTION, ISN'T IT?

USED TO BE ABLE TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION WITHOUT THINKING...

...NO. I'M *NEVER* HAPPY. LIFE *STINKS*, THEN YOU DIE, SO HAVE A PARTY AND LET'EM *FRY*.

DEAR LORD! ZIPPY'S *SUFFOCATING!* OH THE *HUMANITY!*

BUT NOW... THINGS ARE ALL *MUDDY*...

SOME DAYS I WANNA RIP THE *GUTS* OUTTA A GUY JUST 'CAUSE HE KNOWS HOW TO DO THE *TWO STEP*.

OTHER DAYS I WANNA HELP *OLD LADIES* ACROSS THE STREET EVEN IF I *AM* ABOUT TO STEAL THEIR *PENSION* CHECKS.

WAAA!

I THINK I'M LOSIN' IT, AL.

I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY ANYTHING BEFORE, WHAT WITH YOUR *IRRITABLE BOWEL* AND ALL...

...BUT YOU *DO* SEEM... A LITTLE OUT OF SYNCH LATELY. NOW THIS IS JUST A GUESS... A LEFT-FIELD POSSIBILITY...

...DO YOU THINK IT HAS TO DO WITH THAT TWISTED SOCIPATHIC WITCH YOU'VE BEEN SEEING?

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A *FREE WOMAN* AGAIN, AL?

MEANWHILE, ON THE WRONG SIDE OF EVERY SET OF TRACKS IN CHICAGO...

THE HELLHOUSE

"THE *SUBJECT* BRINGS BAD WEATHER WITH HER. HOW *FITTING.*

"WHAT I GATHER FROM THE *REGULARS*, SHE HASN'T [redacted] FOR [redacted] WHILE. NURSING *WOUNDS* SHE EARNED FROM *DEADPOOL.*

"HE SHOULD HAVE HIT HER *HARDER.*

"I'VE READ THE *REPORTS.* MADE *MY OWN* CONCLUSIONS ABOUT POOR, UNSTABLE *TYPHOID MARY...*

"... SHE'S UNCUT *MALICE.* PURE AND SIMPLE. *PERFECT* IN HER IRRESISTIBLE WAY...

"... AND THAT MAKES HER THE MOST *DANGEROUS* PLAYER IN THIS GAME. MY *NEW* NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

"THERE'S SIMPLY TOO MUCH AT *STAKE* TO ALLOW HER *SWAY* OVER DEADPOOL TO *CONTINUE.*

YOU GUARDING THIS *SEAT* FOR ANYONE IN PARTICULAR, *SISTER?*

"SHE MUST BE *EXCISED* FROM WADE WILSON'S *LIFE...*

I'M WAITING FOR MY *MAN.*

WHO AM I TO STAND IN THE WAY OF *TRUE LOVE?* KNOCK YOURSELF OUT... *SISTER.*

"... IN A MOST *EXPEDITIOUS* MANNER."

WELL? DO YOU WANNA GO FREE?

SO IT'S TIME FOR THE "TRY AND ESCAPE THE VILE *CLUTCHES* OF DEADPOOL" GAME... I THOUGHT YOU'D *OUT-GROWN* THAT ONE, WADE.

COME ON, AL...

DO YOU REALLY FEEL SO *CRAPPY* ABOUT YOURSELF THAT YOU NEED TO DANGLE *FREEDOM* IN FRONT OF A SIGHTLESS OLD BROAD, JUST TO *SNATCH* IT AWAY AT THE LAST SECOND?

NO, I'M SERIOUS LIKE A *HEART ATTACK!* I *MEAN* IT!

AND I'M RAQUEL WELCH --

DON'T WALK AWAY FROM ME!

THIS IS MERC'S HONOR, LADY. I'M GONNA *SQUAT* MY WELL-TONED *BUTTOCKS* RIGHT HERE AND COUNT TO FIVE HUNDRED.

IF YOU CAN *TAP* YOUR WAY OUT OF THE PARK BEFORE I TRACK YOU DOWN...

... WELL... THEN YOU CAN KEEP *WALKING.*

I'M NOT IN THE MOOD FOR THIS NONSENSE TODAY, WILSON! WHAT IF I DON'T PLAY ALONG?

THEN THE *NEXT* TIME WE COME TO THE AQUARIUM, *DEUCE'LL* HAVE TO *PULL* YOU AROUND IN SOMETHING WITH *WHEELS.*

NE C'EST PAS?

SIGH
I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE JUST STAYED IN BED [redacted] LIKE A CHIMNEY ALL DAY...

COME ON, YA TICK-INFESTED POOP FACTORY! WE GOT A BRUISED PSYCHE TO APPEASE...
WHUPTIE-DO! LOOK AT ME! HERE I GO!

RUNNING IN A LAST DITCH ATTEMPT TO SNATCH MY TWILIGHT YEARS OUT OF THE GRASP OF A MADMAN!
OH, DEAR, OH, MY. SOME-ONE CALL THE POLICE.
YOU GO, GOLDEN GIRL!

STUPID WADE AND HIS GAME... MAKE ME WALK AROUND... ANKLES GET ALL SWOLLEN...

COME ON, OLD GIRL... YOU CAN DO IT... GET OUT OF HERE...
...GET FAR AWAY FROM ME...

...BEFORE THINGS STOP BEING SO NICE AROUND THE HOUSE.
ONE... TWO... THREE... FIFTY...

MJ "DISCO DOLPHIN DIVERTISSEMENT", OUR MYSTERIOUS (AND POINTLESSLY-SILHOUETTED) FRIENDS FROM PAGE 7 TAKE IN THE SHOW...

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

AMAZING WHAT THEY TRAIN ANIMALS TO DO, *ISN'T* IT? I KNEW A GUY ONCE WITH A *FERRET* THAT WOULD CLIMB A LADY'S LEG --

DO YOU THINK THE GROUP NEEDS A TRAINED ANIMAL... A MASCOT?

PIGS'RE VERY INTELLIGENT. MAYBE A PIG WITH AN ON-BOARD COMPUTER..?

SIX-FIFTY FOR A WATERED-*DOWN SPRITE*... CAN YOU *BELIEVE* THIS?

WILL YOU STOP BELLYACHING ABOUT IT ALREADY? WATCH THE FISH --

CLAP

CLAP

girl

AAAAH

CLAP

GO FLIPPER! YAY!

BOOM BOOM BOOM

YOU ARE SUCH A *JUVENILE* SOME-TIMES.

EXCUSE ME, MISS... I NEED TO GO MAKE SISSY.

PARROT PAVILION

STUPID STUPID STUPID.

HOW'M I EVER GONNA GET TO THE GUTS OF WADE'S PROBLEMS IF I KEEP LETTIN' HIM HAVE HIS WAY?

I MEAN, THE ESCAPE GAME? GIMME A BREAK...

HE'D HAVE LESS TROUBLE FINDING ME AT A BLUE-HAIRED LADIES CONVENTION WITH A BLINDFOLD ON THAN THE KINGPIN WOULD HAVE FINDING HIS WAIST LINE!

BACK IN THE DAY WHEN I WAS NOT QUITE SO CYNICAL, I USED TO ENTERTAIN THOUGHTS OF ESCAPE...

...I'D FEEL MY WAY THROUGH BUSHES, SQUIRM UNDER CARS, DOUBLE AND TRIPLE BACK AGAIN...

...BUT SURE ENOUGH, WITHIN AN HOUR AND A HALF, MAX, I'D HEAR MY CELL KEYS JINGLING...

...IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED BY SOME WISEGUY QUIP. THE JERK.

'COURSE, IF THERE EVER WAS A TIME TO BAIL, THIS WOULD BE IT... BEFORE THINGS WITH WADE COME TO A HEAD...

...AND I FIND MYSELF ON THE WRONG END OF HIS BAD SIDE.

PLUS, WHETHER OR NOT I'D LIKE TO ADMIT IT, MUTTLEY HERE IS A PRETTY CAPABLE GUIDE... I WONDER...

HEY, FLEA BAIT... YOU KNOW HOW TO GET HOME FROM HERE? HOME, DEUCE?

ARF

SLURP

HEY! YOU FORGOT SOMETHING...

RUFF

...IDIOTS, SURROUNDED BY IDIOTS.

TWO HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN... THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO... FOUR HUNDRED --

-- ENOUGH ALREADY... MY BUTT WENT NUMB AROUND TWO FIFTY...

...FIVE... ZERO...

OZZZT

... ZERO.

MAESTRO? SOME TRAVELING MUSIC, *PLEASE*...

...ON BEHALF OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER OF *MERCS AGAINST BAD FILM SEQUELS* --

-- I AM ON A MISSION TO VENTILATE *ALL KILLER WHALES* IN CAPTIVITY, TO *ENSURE* THAT THE WORLD WILL NEVER HAVE TO SUFFER THROUGH...

"FREE WILLY" FOUR!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

FEEL THE HOT *KISS* OF MOLTEN LEAD, ORCA!

ARGGH!

BOY... THIS IS GONNA BE LIKE SHOOTING FISH IN THE *FACE* AT CLOSE RANGE... *TEE-HEE.*

LITTLE TIMMY IS A LIVING TESTAMENT TO THE "FREE WILLY" FRANCHISE. HIS WORLD HAS JUST LOST ALL REASON.

AIIGH!
WHALES ARE OUR *FRIENDS!*
HE'S GOT A GUN!
MANIAC!
HEY, LOOK! IT'S ONE OF THOSE SILHOUETTE *FREAKS* AGAIN!
IS IT MAH IMAGINATION, OR IS *EVIL* AFOOT, FRIENDS? QUICKLY! WE MUST --
I'LL TELL YA WHAT *YA MUST! FIRST* IS, YA MUST PAY ME FER DA *SEVENTEEN* KELP KONES **SKINNY** SUCKED DOWN, OR ARE YA'S A COUPLE A *THIEVIN' FREAKS?*
OF *COURSE* NOT, SIR! YOU'LL RECEIVE YOUR PAYMENT...
THAT'S RIGHT! OUR WORD IS OUR *BOND!* WE'RE *HEROES!*
GREAT LAKES AVENGERS, ASSEM-
FLATMAN! OUR *NEW NAME,* REMEMBER?! WE BOUGHT *OUT* OF THE AVENGERS FRANCHISE!
WE ARE NOW AND EVER MORE... THE WEST COAST *ADJUNCT* TO THE THUNDERBOLTS... THE
LIGHTNING RODS!
ATTRACTING MALIGNANCY *AWAY* FROM THOSE IT WOULD SEE *ELECTROCUTED* IN ITS NEGATIVELY CHARGED GRIP OF *EVIL!*
RIGHT... I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO GET USED TO THAT... SORRY.

IF EVERYONE WOULD JUST *STOP* SCREAMING AND RUNNING... I'M WITH THE CENTER FOR *OLD-FOGEY RESEARCH*, AND YOU'RE IN *NO DANGER!*

BLIND AL'S PART OF A *DELICATE* EXPERIMENT TO INDUCE SPONTANEOUS *BREAK-DANCING* IN THE ELDERLY!

EVERYTHING WILL BEJUST *FINE*, SO LONG AS YOU DON'T SAY THE KEY WORDS *"ELECTRIC BOOGALOO"* WITHIN FIVE YARDS OF HER...

... IF YOU DO, *DUCK*, BECAUSE THE SHEER FORCE OF HER *ADIDAS WINDMILL* CAN STUN A BULL ELEPHANT AT FIFTY YARDS!

DO NOT TRY TO DO THE *ROBOT* WITH HER YOURSELF --

LIGHTNING RODS! STRIKE!

-- EXCUSE *YOU*, I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A *ROUTINE* HERE --

EVIL-DOER! PUT DOWN THE *WEAPONS*, PUT YOUR HEAD BETWEEN YOUR *LEGS* AND KISS YOUR *BEHIND* GOODBYE!

'CAUSE YOU JUST GOT *STRUCK* BY THE *LIGHTNING RODS!*

SKRAK

I'VE BEEN MEANING TO MENTION, *MR. I...* LIGHTNING RODS DON'T ACTUALLY STRIKE ANYTHING...

... IT DOESN'T MAKE *SENSE* AS A *BATTLE* CRY.

SPLASH

TURTLE POND

WE'LL WORK OUT THE PR BUGS *LATER*, *BIG BERTHA*... BEAR WITH ME.

MY [redacted] IS *MR. IMMORTAL*, AND ON BEHALF OF THE *LIGHTNING RODS*, I'M PLACING YOU UNDER *CITIZENS ARREST.*

...

... THERE ARE A *MILLION* THINGS GOING THROUGH MY MIND RIGHT NOW...

...BUT IN THE *GRAND SCHEME*, ALL THAT MATTERS...

...ARE THE THINGS ABOUT TO GO THROUGH *YOUR* MIND... AND YOUR *LUNGS*... AND YOUR *PANCREAS*.

UH... WHERE'D HE GET THAT GUN?

MR. *IMMORTAL*, HUH?

"A PLEASURE TO *BEAT* YOU."

M

EWW. I THINK SOME OF Mr. I GOT BLOWN INTO MY *HAIR*.

SHUT UP, *DOORMAN!*

THAT IS SO *DISTURBING*.

WHAT'RE YOU SO *MIFFED* FOR? I LEFT HIS *FACE* INTACT FOR AN *OPEN CASKET!*

THOUGH IF THE *LARGE AND LOVELY BRIDE* STEPS ON HIM, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO *MAIL* HIM TO THE FUNERAL HOME IN AN *ENVELOPE*.

FALL BACK! FORTIFY POSITIONS!

SMASSH

MEANWHILE, A FEW MILES AWAY AT DEADPOOL'S HOUSE...

WEASEL, YOU PITIABLE *FOOL*... FOR A GUY WHO'S SUPPOSEDLY A *GENIUS*, YOU MUST BE A FEW CLOWNS SHORT OF A *CIRCUS* TO KEEP SHOWING UP HERE.

DING DONG

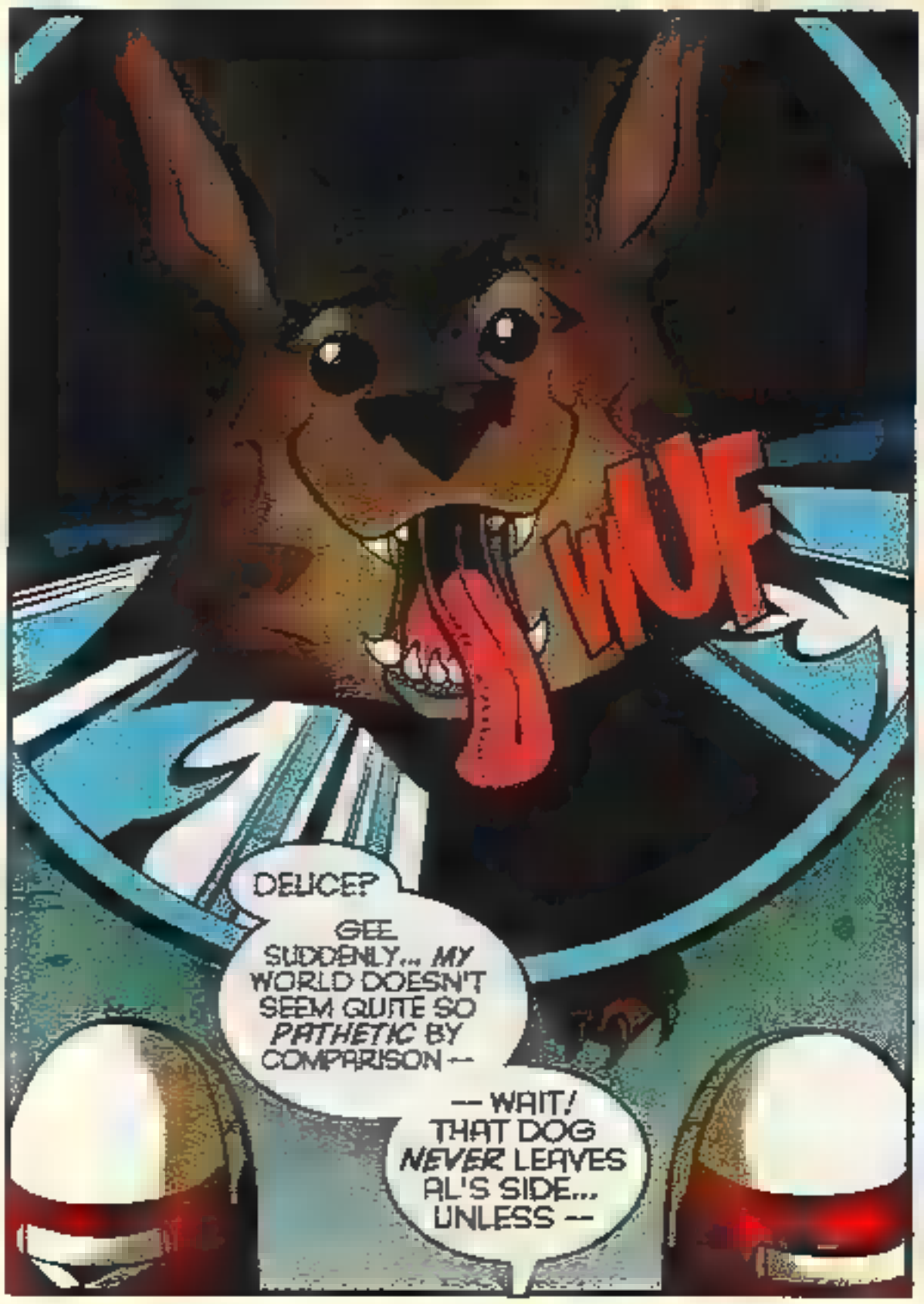
DEADPOOL'S YOUR *BUD* AND ALL, BUT IF HE EVER FINDS OUT YOU'VE BEEN VISITING AL WHEN HE'S OUT CAUSING *MAYHEM* --

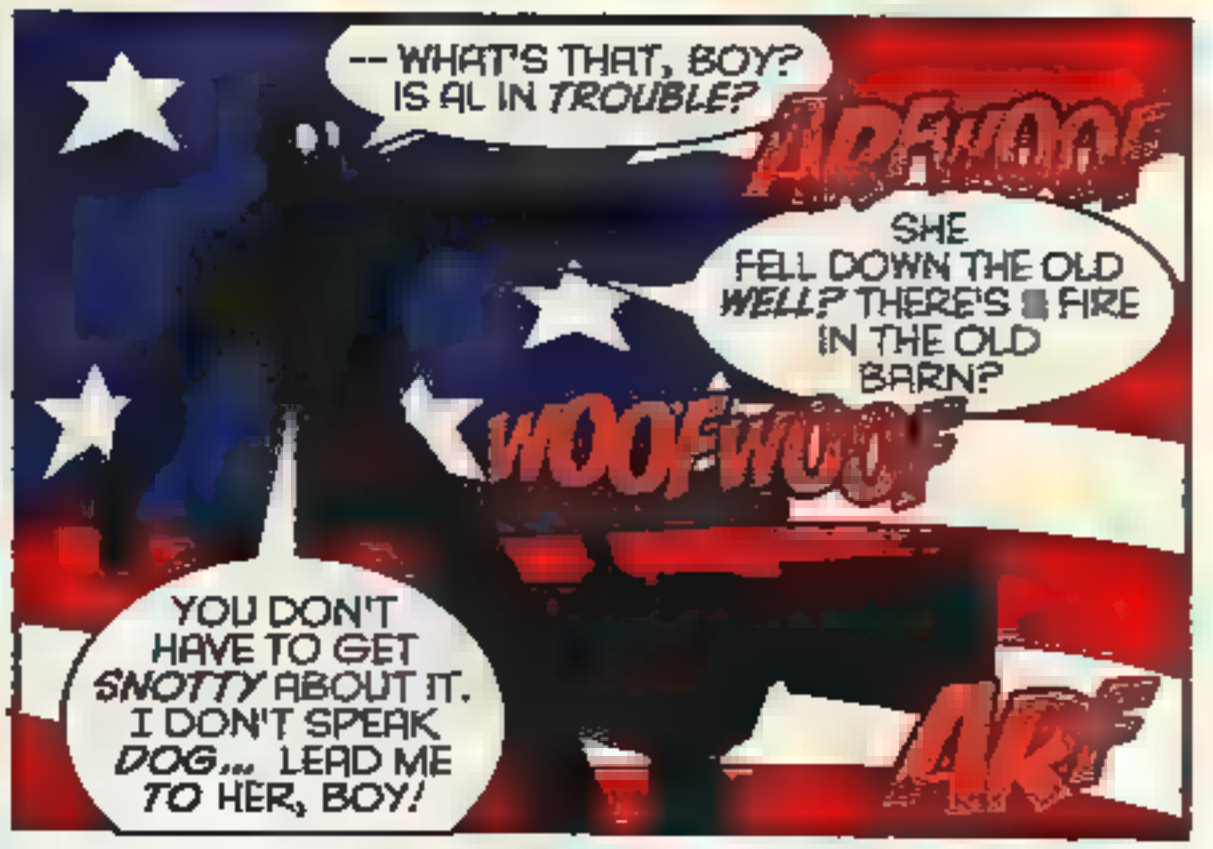
-- *SIGH* I'M SO *DESPERATE* FOR COMPANY, I'M THINKING TO MYSELF IN THE SECOND PERSON.

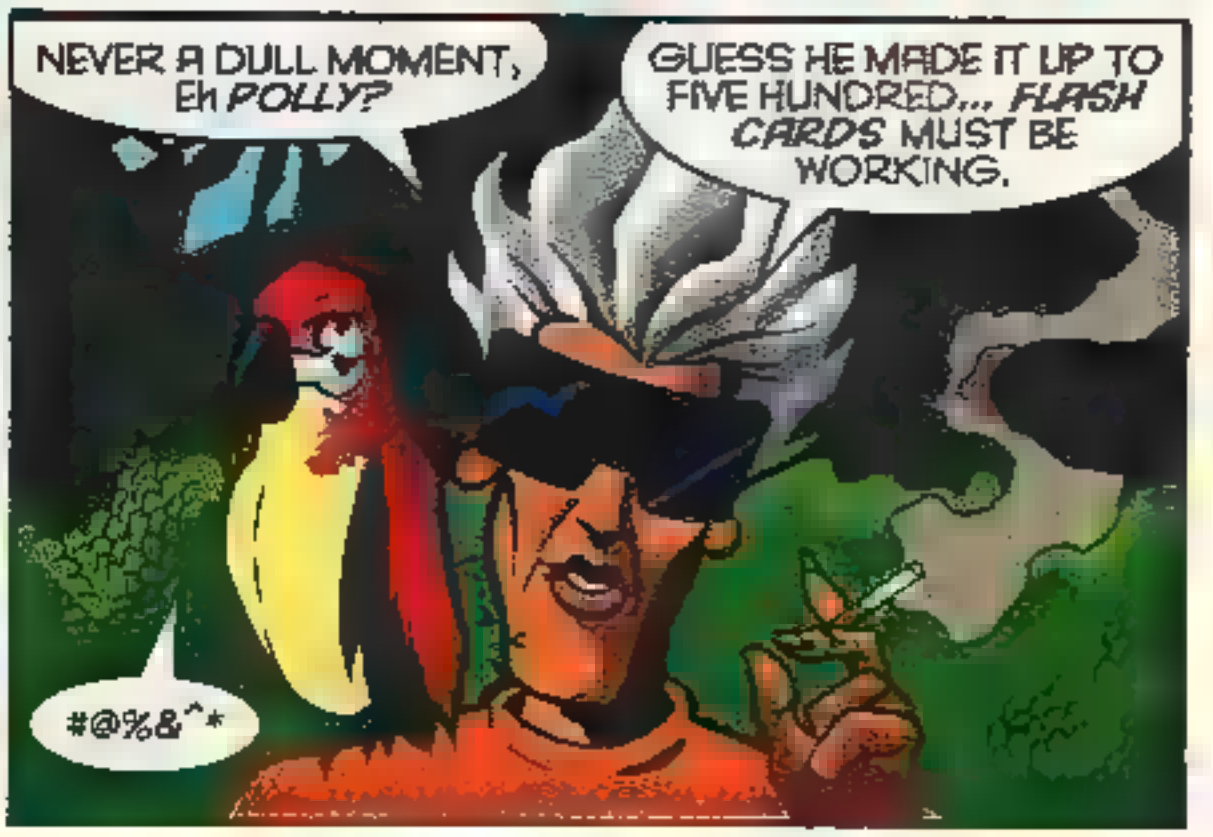
I NEED A *LIFE* --

RUFF

Huh?




-- WHAT'S THAT, BOY? IS AL IN *TROUBLE?*
AIRWOOF
SHE FELL DOWN THE OLD *WELL?* THERE'S A FIRE IN THE OLD BARN?
WOOFWOOF
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GET *SNOTTY* ABOUT IT. I DON'T SPEAK *DOG*... LEAD ME *TO* HER, BOY!
ARF



SHARK TUNNEL

CAREFUL, HONEY! IF YOU *TRIP*, YOU'LL FALL STRAIGHT TO *CHINA!*

WHAT'S YOUR BLOOD TYPE? *RAGU?*

BERTHA, HE'S GOT YOU PRETTY *RILED* UP, MAYBE *I* SHOULD --

HE'S *MINE!* YOU CUT HIM OFF AT THE OTHER END!

BUT THE SHARK TUNNEL'S IS TOO *NARROW* --

HEY, I HEARD YOU SAT ON THE *RAINBOW* AND *SKITTLES* CAME OUT!

OOOH I GOT A *TON* OF 'EM, KIDS... *GET* IT? A *TONP* I *SLAY* ME.

WOW, DADDY! LOOKIT 'EM! CAN THEY *GET* US?

'SCUSEPARDONNE -- YOUFOLKSHAVINGANICE TIME?*SUPER!*

Huh?

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE *GIFT SHOP* FOR OUR SPECIAL ON TOWELS, FLOTATION DEVICES, AND SNORKELS!

LET'S GET *PHYSICAL!*

SWIM! SWIM LIKE YOU'VE NEVER *SWUM* BEFORE, MY FINNY FRIENDS! YOUR *LIVES* DEPEND ON IT!--

CRASH

FLOOSH

THE *DAME'S* GOT *TARTAR* SAUCE!

I'M THE DEPUTY LEADER! IF SHE WANTS TO TAKE OVER EVERY TIME *MR. I* GETS SHOT, THEN SHE SHOULD FILL OUT AN *APPLICATION!*

YOU'RE SO *TERRITORIAL*, FLATTY. *REALLY.* LOOK, YOU'RE UPSETTING *DINAH SOAR...*

TRANSLATION: "ALARM! ALARM! PORKY MESSED UP."

HEY, *MS. RODAN '97...* GOING UP?

AZ WE *ALIGHT*, OUR JOURNEY AT AN END, I LOOK AT ZEM...

...ZE *SHARKS...* GRAZEFUL IN ZEIR *BALLET* OF JAWZ AND BLOOZIRSTY FURY...

...AZ THEY BEAR DOWN ON ZEIR NEXT UNSUSPECTING MEAL... I *LAUGH...* BECAUZE I AM *NOT* FISH FOOD.

BEHOLD... ZE SAVAGE *MAJESTY* OF ZE ZEA.

LIGHTNING RODS!

MAH *LUNG* HAS GROWN BACK! QUICKLY, WHILE MY SPLEEN [redacted] TOGETHER! REGROUP --

-- WHAZZAT NOISE?

THIS WASN'T THE *BEST* DAY TO USHER IN A NEW ERA...

SO, SERIOUSLY, YOUR PARENTS WERE AT LEAST *FIRST* COUSINS, RIGHT?

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH YOURSELF A *HAWKMAN* IN THIS DAY AND AGE WITH AN ATTITUDE LIKE THAT, SISTER!

I GET IT!

YOU'RE ONE OF THOSE *FEEBLE*, EASILY-CONTROLLED, *SILENT* TYPES, HUH?

LOOK, UGLY BIRD-GIRL! IT'S *AU!*

CLEVERLY TRYING TO HIDE IN *PLAIN SIGHT*, ARE WE?

SHE MUST'VE FORGOTTEN THAT *SHE'S* THE BLIND ONE... POOR OLD BROAD... GUESS IT'S TIME TO CALL THE *GLUE FACTORY*...

...THANK YOU FOR FLYING *FREAK OF NATURE AIRLINES*... THE CLEAR *GLASS* IS FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING PASSENGERS --

-- THE *RED* GLASS IS SMEARED WITH YOUR BODILY *FLUIDS*. HAVE A DARWINIAN DAY.

TAG O-RAMA, BABY!

YOU'RE *MINE!*

IT'S ABOUT TIME.. *COLUMBO* IS ABOUT TO COME ON. LET'S GO.

->PANT<- WAIT... I... CAN'T ->GASP<- BREATHE...

BAY CITY AQUARIUM 100 yards

ARF

... UP ->PANT<- *YOURS* ->KAFF<- MUTT...

WAIT ONE *PIMPLE PICKIN'* MINUTE! YOU WEREN'T EVEN *PLAYING!*

I GAVE YOU A SHOT AT THE GREAT WIDE OPEN...

...WHY DIDN'T YOU EVEN *TRY?*

=SIGH= I DON'T KNOW...

...MAYBE 'CAUSE MY *SEEING-EYE MONGREL* ABANDONED ME...

...MAYBE 'CAUSE YOU'D [redacted] *MATCH* YOUR SOCKS WITHOUT ME... MAYBE —

HALT, VILE *FIEND!* STEP *AWAY* FROM THE *SENIOR CITIZEN!*

WHAT THE —?

AW, *GEEZ...*

YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU WANT TO *US*, VILE SCUM! BUT WHEN YOU START MESSING WITH THE *AGED...*

...THAT'S [redacted] THE *LIGHTNING RODS* DRAW THE LINE!

THEY'RE EVEN MORE PATHETIC THAN *WEASEL.*

DID HE ACTUALLY CALL YOU *"VILE SCUM?"*

TEK

THIS IS TOO SAD FOR ME TO WASTE ANY *MORE TIME* ON.

YOU WANNA GO HOME AND SCORE SOME *YOGURT?*

HE'S TAKEN A *HOSTAGE!* WHAT DO WE DO?

WE ONLY HAVE *ONE* CHANCE... YOU HAVE TO *TELEPORT* HER TO SAFETY! EXECUTE PLAN 227 —

WHICH ONE IS THAT?

WAIT A SEC, CAN YOU TELEPORT *TWO* PEOPLE AT ONCE?

DUNNO, REALLY... BUT IF ONE OF 'EM'S GOT A FOOT IN THE GRAVE *ALREADY*, I DON'T SEE WHAT THE WORRY IS.

Oh, RIGHT! I REMEMBER! THE *FASTBALL SPECIAL!™*

RIGHT ON, *TOVARISCH!* GO GET HER!

"FASTBALL SPECIAL" IS AN ORIGINAL LIGHTNING ROD MANEUVER UNDER EXCLUSIVE LICENSE BY LIGHTNING ROD™ INC.

DON'T WORRY, LADY! I GOT YA! I GOT YA! I —

WORST CASE SCENARIO IS MIX UP OUR MOLECULES INTO SOME HIDEOUS *AMALGAM* THING. NO BIGGIE — HAPPENS ALL THE *TIME* —

BFFA GGH

THERE ARE CERTAIN LAWS BY WHICH OUR UNIVERSE IS GOVERNED — INCONTESTABLE TRUTHS WHICH SHOULD NEVER BE CHALLENGED...

... "FOR EVERY ACTION THERE IS AN EQUAL AND OPPOSITE REACTION"...

... "ALWAYS USE SPRAY PAINT IN WELL VENTILATED AREAS"...

... "NEVER DRINK ORANGE JUICE IMMEDIATELY AFTER BRUSHING"...

AAAH!

... AND "NEVER... EVER... EVER ENGAGE TWO MODALITIES OF INSTANTANEOUS TELEPORTATION AT THE SAME TIME, ON THE SAME SUBJECTS."

WOE IS THE ARROGANCE OF MAN...

DOORMAN?

YOU WEREN'T %*@& *AUTHORIZED* TO DO THAT! WHAT THE %$*@ WERE YOU *THINKING?*

Uh-Oh, Mr. T'S *RAGING* AGAIN -- HEY... DOORMAN DOESN'T LOOK SO HOT. MAYBE WE SHOULD GET HIM TO A *DOCTOR* --

=HUURK= =NNGH=

STOP! DO *NOT* MOVE THAT *MAN!*

BACK OFF, *CIVILIAN!* THIS IS OFFICIAL *SUPER-HERO* BUSINESS --

NO, SIR. THIS...

ARF

... THIS IS *SIDEKICK* BUSINESS.

THESE READINGS ARE *DERANGED!* AMBIENT RADIATION LEVELS ALMOST TO THE *RED... TRANS-SPATIAL* DISTORTIONS --

-- WHAT DID YOU *DO,* MAN?

I TRIED TO =*URP*= TELEPORT THE *LADY* -- BUT THAT *MANIAC* --

-- *DEADPOOL?* HE WAS HERE?

OH. MY. *GOD.*

UNLESS I'M *CRAZY,* AND BELIEVE ME, THAT'S *ENTIRELY* POSSIBLE, I THINK I KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED...

... DEADPOOL AND AL

THEY'RE LOST IN TIME!

=BUURPP= excuse me...

SNIFF

WELL AIN'T THAT JUST A LOAD OF HAPPY HORSE MANURE?

NEXT ISSUE: WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY

The Marvel Universe was [illegible] in 1961.
We [illegible] it in 1991.

we
wants
we
on
screw
two
a
a
of
some
so we

"With Great Power Comes Great Coincidence!"

DEADPOOL

A SPECIAL BEHIND THE SCENES PREVIEW

In [illegible] that
in a
a few
[illegible] cover
face

MARVEL COMICS
ART PAPER FOR BLEED PAGES (BOOKSHELF FORMAT OR SADDLE STITCH) PRINTS AT 67%
ILLUSTRATION QUALITY
ALL BLEED [illegible] EXTEND TO SOLID LINE
KEEP ALL LETTERING INSIDE BROKEN-LINE BOX
Story Page # _____ | Line Up Page # _____
TRIM COPY

BEHIND THE SCENES

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A GOOD BOY... BUT HE'S SO FRAIL! I KNOW SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED! I JUST KNOW IT!
MAY PARKER! I'M SURPRISED AT YOU! YOU GET HOLD OF YOURSELF THIS VERY MINUTE!
WHAT WOULD PETER SAY IF HE SAW YOU LIKE THIS?

Displayed on this page is our initial attempt at "Gumping"--Deadpool style--using a panel from AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #40, by Stan Lee and John Romita, Sr.

The first thing we had to do was obtain the black-and-white film which, like any film negative is in reverse. That's the film there to your left.

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A GOOD BOY... BUT HE'S SO FRAIL! I KNOW SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED! I JUST KNOW IT!
MAY PARKER! I'M SURPRISED AT YOU! YOU GET HOLD OF YOURSELF THIS VERY MINUTE!
WHAT WOULD PETER SAY IF HE SAW YOU LIKE THIS?

What we have here is a photostat of the film, reversing the negative film into a positive image.

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A GOOD BOY... BUT HE'S SO FRAIL! I KNOW SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED! I JUST KNOW IT!
MAY PARKER! I'M SURPRISED AT YOU! YOU GET HOLD OF YOURSELF THIS VERY MINUTE!
WHAT WOULD PETER SAY IF HE SAW YOU LIKE THIS?

Now that you know what it *should* look like, let's get into some "Gumping!" We applied some black patch tape to the film, covering up Aunt May, so that when we made a photostat of the panel, she'd be removed from the image.

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A GOOD BOY... BUT HE'S SO FRAIL! I KNOW SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED! I JUST KNOW IT!
MAY PARKER! I'M SURPRISED AT YOU! YOU GET HOLD OF YOURSELF THIS VERY MINUTE!
WHAT WOULD PETER SAY IF HE SAW YOU LIKE THIS?

With that out of the way, we then proceeded to drop in a shot of our favorite cranky old lady, Blind Al . And there you have it: history rewritten!

As you can imagine, with each successive test, we got the final product to blend into the original art more seamlessly, but we thought we'd treat you folks to our very first attempt!

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Line Up Page #
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BEHIND THE SCENES

AMAZING
FANTASY
12¢
SPIDER-MAN
THOUGH THE WORLD MAY MOCK PETER PARKER THE TIMID TEEN-AGER...
...IT WILL SOON MARVEL AT THE AWESOME MIGHT OF SPIDER-MAN!
ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

To our left is perhaps the most famous cover in comics history. The first appearance of Spider-Man! When going forward with our story, we decided to emulate a famous Spidey cover. The cover to the story we used didn't quite work right, so we decided to go for broke and pick the big one! It was then that we noticed a bizarre cosmic coincidence: Spidey has the same style word balloons as Deadpool!

Here we have a sketch by Pete Woods for our version of the cover. Notice the Spidey-esque logo up at the top?

Finally, we have the finished pencils—well, of the main figures, anyway. Can you guess who that is under Deadpool's arm? As you can see, we decided to vary slightly away from a straight emulation. The breaking rope is a result of that choice.

Well, that's all the sneak peeks you're going to get for now! See ya next month for 64 titanic pages of laughter, disrespect, and inappropriate behavior, as Deadpool and Blind Al engage in a true tale to admonish!

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DEADLINE

PAUL TUTRONE
ASSISTANT EDITOR

MATT IDELSON
EDITOR

BOB HARRAS
CHIEF

Hola, gang! We decided to devote most of this month's letters page to the DAREDEVIL/ DEADPOOL '97 Annual. We've gotten tons of mail on it, and if the opinions expressed in the letters we've received so far are any indication, it was definitely a hit! So sit back and enjoy, babes!

Dear D-Crew,

The Typhoid Mary saga as presented in DAREDEVIL is one of my top five Marvel stories ever (and I have been keeping a close eye on you since the early 80's). Regrettably, I did not find the continuation of her adventures in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS or in her limited series to be as successful, although top notch talents were summoned to present them.

Impressed by Joe Kelly's work on DAREDEVIL MINUS 1, I actually felt that he could pull something great with her character, so I found my way to recent DEADPOOL issues and eventually to DAREDEVIL/ DEADPOOL '97.

You've left me speechless. That was an amazing comic. I could exhaust a whole vocabulary of praising adjectives and I would still be only beginning. A truly great comic can only be the result of teamwork, so congratulations to all you guys who put out not just an enjoyable comic but a memorable one as well. You have a classic in your hands, and you know what that means: this team is capable of putting that special magic back in comics that makes the difference. Let them do their dance again soon!

Tony Finitsis
Chicago, IL
afinitsi@midway.uchicago.edu

Gosh, Tony, you're gonna make us cry. Thank you very much for your oodles of praise. We appreciate it. We're glad that DD/DP '97 worked so well for you! Believe us when we say that working on it was just as much fun as it seems to have been reading it. A classic, huh? Gee.... Oh, yeah! And look out for DEADPOOL '98, 'cause Bernard will be back in the saddle with Joe for that one, too!

Dear *Deadlines*,

No, no, no, no, no! NO! NO! NO! And finally, NO!!

Now, I know some jokers out there like Deadpool for his "hit first, ask questions at the funeral" attitude, but some of us are among his adoring fans for entirely different reasons.

I, for one, like Wade right where he is: standing on the line between good and evil. That way, you're never quite sure what he'll do in any given situation. That unpredictable element of surprise is one reason I like this comic so much. Eventually, though, I really and truly want Wade to become a hero. I know what you're thinking, but hear me out, because I have my reasons.

Wade's is an extremely fragile psyche. He has experienced things that no human should even have nightmares about. Ever. The "villain" most people see and many fans like is there both to avenge his wounded soul and to hide the broken pieces. Beyond that, he's as vulnerable as Cinderella's glass slipper. But underneath all that lies a person who really does care. In issue #1, he risks his life because he cares about people not having to go through cancer the way he did. In issue #5, he spares Killbrew because he cares about Siryn. He's not a villain deep down; not really. I don't want this "I could be a hero" thing just to be a phase. If it is, you've wasted your own time incorporating it into the plot, Zoe Culloden's work will have gone up in smoke, and Wade will be worse for the wear. In short, if you go through with that, you're crazier than Typhoid Mary.

I'm not saying in any way that I want him hosting *CBS Storybreak*. The kind of hero he would make is a dubious one, and is just the kind I'd like to see him become. Of course, if you insist on keeping him a villain to keep the fans from strangling you, at least make him a stronger person inside.

1) I want Wade and Theresa to get together, not Wade and Typhoid Mary.

2) Any chance of a DEADPOOL/THUNDERBOLTS crossover? Pleeeaaase!!!

3) I like the idea of a Deadpool animated series. Anybody else? Please write in!

4) I'd like it if Wade had an out-of-body experience. It would be extremely revealing and maybe even a healing experience for him.

One thing I love about this series is how truly serious it is. I honestly think it is one of--if not perhaps the most--dramatic Marvel series you guys have out on the market. It is just so real, and because of that, so moving when you read it. Keep up the good work, and keep in mind what I said about Wade as a hero. There's more to him than meets the eye.

Till Wade gets a job selling Beanie Babies, Make Mine Marvel!

Susan Hatfield
Dothan, AL

Great letter, Susan! As you can see, this whole hero thing isn't quite working out as Wade had hoped.

DEADPOOL-DEADPOOL-DEADPOOL-